KINGS

Elijah Cristiano

FRESH BLOOD WASHINGS

OCTOBER
15.10.26–08.11.26

Artist Run

Established in 2003, KINGS Artist-Run provides a location for contemporary art practice, supporting distinctive experimental projects by artists at all stages of their careers.

Open 12 - 5pm, Thursday - Friday
12 - 4pm, Saturday - Sunday

69 Capel Street,
West Melbourne VIC 3003

KINGS Artist Run acknowledges the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung people of the Kulin Nation as the Traditional Custodians of the land on which we operate. We offer our respect to Elders both past and present and extend this offer to all First Nations people.

STRAY VOLTAGE

Elijah Cristiano

Fresh Blood Washings

Fresh Blood Washings uses moving image, photography, field recording and the practice of writing to reveal the violence inflicted upon the Maribyrnong River by settler-colonial expansion and industrialisation. After the *Yarra River Pollution Act* was passed in 1855 to clean up Melbourne's inner eastern waterways, tanneries, abattoirs, and other noxious trades were relocated to the banks of the Maribyrnong River. The river was then used as both a route for transportation and a drain for industrial waste discarded from abattoirs and factories. Aiming to 'make with' rather than 'make of' the river using methods such as underwater videography, embodied field recording and handmade paper-making using recycled scrap paper blended in water collected from the river, the work seeks to subvert colonial views of waterways as resources for economic advancement.

Text and narration sourced from Australasian (Vic, 1864–1946, 21 March 1896), The Age (Vic, 1854–1954, 25 May 1855) and Sunshine Advocate (Vic, 1924–1954, 5 May 1933) accessed via Trove. Archival photographs sourced from the State Library of Victoria. All images are out of copyright.

Artwork details:

Fresh Blood Washings, 2026, HD, single channel video, 00:03:48.

Not a place for your village, 2026, ink on handmade recycled paper, approx. 12.0 x 20.0 cm each.

Elijah Cristiano is a multidisciplinary artist living and creating on Wurundjeri Country in Naarm (Melbourne). Spanning photography, videography and sound art, Elijah engages with notions of place, positionality and relationships between humans and environments. Elijah graduated from a Master of Photography at RMIT University, and was awarded the NAVA Ignition Award for Highest Performing in Professional Practice, the Brunswick Print Lab Prize, and the Vice-Chancellor's List for Academic Excellence Award. He recently completed the RMIT Galleries Graduate Residency and is currently an Artist in Residence at Soundstep Studios. Elijah has exhibited works both locally and internationally.

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LITTLE BRUNSWICK WINE CO. HEAPS NORMAL